

Women's Thursday Bible Class

God's Distinctive Calling for Women 2022

Lesson #One:

Why this study? Now? Introduction , Overview of the study, Goals

Passing onto the next generation Ps. 71:17-18

Basis: Titus 2:3-5 Text on Discipleship, with a Context

Other foundational Scriptures: Deut. 6:4-7 and Ps. 78:1-7

Mat. 28:18-20

Principle #1: God's Word is our authority -Biblical doctrine of the church is essential

Principal #2: Teach sound doctrine and the ethical duties which flow from and are demanded by it, for the Gospel's sake

Titus 2:1

Principal #3: Communion of the saints in covenant with God and each other

Principal #4: The Gospel has a redemptive transforming influence in believers' lives

Principal #5: The Gospel has a redemptive transforming influence on culture

Principal #6: The Gospel is the motivation - II Cor. 5 - Paul's great Why

Principle #7: The Gospel is the unifying factor integrating all toward our purpose which is **the glory of God.**

Women mentoring Women (Titus 2)comes with a broader Context

Covenant of Grace

Calling of **Biblical womanhood** - Gen 1-2 , bearing God's image, male and female reflection;

to carry out the Dominion mandate; helper by design- can only comment here . Read Susan Hunt - Spiritual Mothering . p.223. Even distinctive roles in the Trinity!

and to carry out the Great Commission to disciple given by Christ (Mat. 28:18-20)

The Church- vehicle. The book of Titus(with I and II Tim.) could be called "Church Health 101"

Culture- Mat. 5:16, Titus 2:5 ,8, 10- are we making God look good to the watching world?

Overarching Goals for the Class to keep in mind: Restating some of what already said

1. Importance of the church
2. Importance of the covenant community
3. Importance of sound doctrine , basis of ethics
4. Importance of gender distinctiveness - God's good plan - Exhortation from Dr. Peter Jones - taken from Women's Ministry in the Local Church- p. 129-130

Books I will be referring to and using:

Susan Hunt - Spiritual Mothering, the Titus 2 Model for Women Mentoring Women

Susan Hunt with Barbara Johnson - The Legacy of Biblical Womanhood

Susan Hunt with Ligon Duncan - Woman' s Ministry in the Local Church

Georgia Settle - Seasons of Change, Seasons of Grace

Melissa Krueger - Growing Together, Taking Mentoring beyond Small Talk and Prayer requests

sermonaudio.com - under Susan Hunt (Women's Conferences - various)

Questions for group discussion:

1. What person, book, ministry, etc. has God significantly used in your life to disciple you and grow your faith?
1. Can you look back and point to particular women who have been helpers to you? Describe your relationship.
1. Look up just a few of the helper verses below. How can you reflect this aspect of help to other women?
"Helper is an exceptional design with an essential function." - Susan Hunt
1. Has there been a time in your life when another women has been this support for you when you were going through a tough season? What did she do?
1. How can we begin to nurture a culture of community / unity and compassion in our relationships ?
1. Put into your own words how you understand the analogy of reflecting the image of our Triune God , man and woman being created equal but with different roles, to reflect the equality and diversity of the Trinity.

Helper verses: Hebrew word is *ezer*, or depending on how it is used - *azar*, where God is referred to as our helper or helping

Many places in Psalms: 10:14 , 20:2 , 33:20 , 46:1 , 54:4 , 70:5 , 72:12 , 86:17 , 94:17-18 , 118:7,13 , Luke 1:54

Has the meaning to surround, defend, protect, aid, succor , or perhaps to lift up
Greek *boethia* - same idea of support

For next week: Pray for God's blessing on this study. Meditate on the rest of these verses. As you come away from today what is one thing ,small as it may be ,that you can do to put into practice something you learned. Today's lesson was taken in part from Spiritual Mothering,pp. 13-29, and pp.221-227 and from book by Susan Hunt and Ligon Duncan, WMLC, chapter on Discipleship.
Read chapter 1 in Spiritual Mothering , if you have it.